

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A storage system, which can execute sort processing of data without affecting online service, is disclosed. A storage control device 12 receives a sort instruction specifying a record group for sorting and a sort key from a host device 1, reads the record group from an external storage device 11 into cache memory 123, and uses the cache memory 123 and a work area secured in the external storage device 11 to execute sort processing of the above record group, and again stores the sorted record group in a prescribed output area within the external storage device 11. When a plurality of sort instructions are received, work areas are allocated automatically without overlapping work areas. When record updates occur during online service, a snapshot of the updated records is taken, and sorting of the snapshot is performed.